



## Upcoming Events

### **December:**

- 17/12 – Yr R Kent's Cavern
- 17/12 – School Nativities:  
     5pm – Yr 1/2  
     7pm – Yr 3/4
- 19/12 – Yr 1/2 Pennywell  
     Trip
- 20/12 – School Nativities:  
     5pm – Nursery+Yr R  
     7pm – Yr 5/6
- 21/12 – End of Term**

### **January:**

- 07/01 – Back to school**
- 10/01 – Reception 2019 –  
     Parent show around
- 10/01 – Height, weight and  
     hearing (Yr R)
- 18/01 – Parent info session  
     (Doodle Maths)

## School Clubs

- Mon:** Yr 5/6 Girl's Football
- Tues:** Yr 5/6 Boy's Football  
     Yr 5/6 Netball Club  
     STEM Club
- Weds:** No clubs
- Thurs:** Yr 3/4 Boy's Football  
     Homework Club (KS2)  
     Athletots (Yr2)  
     The Lion King
- Fri:** Yr 2 Football Club

## **Headteacher News**

It has been a wonderful first term for me at Sherwell Valley and I have really enjoyed getting to know the children, staff and the wider school community. Leading a school the size of Sherwell is a very great pleasure and also a very great privilege. Some weeks ago I spoke to the children in assembly about why I do the job that I do. I told them that I was a headteacher because it enabled me to make a very real difference to the lives of children... to their life. I am tremendously thankful that I have the opportunity to do this every day and would like to thank you for the support and partnership that you, as parents and carers, give to the school.

One of the greatest challenges that we have faced at SVPS over recent months has been coping with the reduction in support staff. As I am certain you are aware, funding in education has been cut significantly over the last few years and this has had a very real impact on the provision that we can now offer in school. Since half term, I have been working with the senior leadership team on restructuring our TA workforce so that staff can have maximum impact on children's progress whilst also meeting the stipulations of the funding agreements.

This restructure will mean that there is a far greater consistency for children with additional needs which will, no doubt, benefit them and their classmates greatly. If your child currently receives extra support then Mrs Sennett our SENDCo will let you know over the next week about any changes to their provision.

I hope that I will have the chance to see many of you next week at the Christmas performances at Upton Vale Church. Having had the very great pleasure of watching the Nursery children in their show earlier this week, I am now really looking forward to seeing the final outcome of all of the hard work and rehearsals that the older children have engaged in over the last month or so.

**Best wishes**  
**Jayne Keller**  
**Headteacher**



## Doodle Maths - update

We now have 325 pupils paid up for their DoodleMaths and DoodleTables subscription for the year. If you haven't already but would like to pay for Doodle Maths and DoodleTables access, you'll need to pay £6 to the school (the easiest way to pay is on the School Gateway) by January 7th 2019.

The normal price for an annual subscription to DoodleMaths and DoodleTables is £6 a month, so don't miss out on this fantastic offer as it's only available until the 7th January. We've had great feedback from children using the apps and if you can encourage your child to access DoodleMaths for 10 minutes a day over the Christmas break that would be great. This will mean they keep their maths learning from this first term fresh and also keep their stars and streaks tallying up. Let's see which class is top of the leader board when we return! **Mrs Aplin.**

## Attendance this week:

Congratulations to the classes who top the attendance charts this week:

**3J - 99.54%**

**4SB, 4AB, 5DA - 98.66%**



## FOSV

It's been an incredibly busy week for FOSV this week with the Xmas Trail on Saturday and then the discos last night – thanks to all teachers, parents and carers who helped out.

It's too early to know how much the discos raised but Saturday's event raised just over £1,000 which is an amazing amount which will, no doubt, be spent on some truly special things and experiences for the children to enjoy over the next year. **Thanks FOSV!**

## Year 6 – can you help?

We are creating an area in school to help support a child in Year 6 and are looking for the following items: a very small bookcase to store a few books, a fish tank, a lava lamp, any sensory lights, a room divider, and throws or blankets and a wicker basket to store items in.

If you have any of these items that you no longer have a need for, could you please let Mrs Aplin know. Many thanks.

## Online Safety - yes, again!!

Another Online Safety idea to raise awareness about being safe...

*Together with O2, the NSPCC have created a [new quiz game](#) on the Amazon Alexa, to pit parents up against kids in a battle of digital wits. By testing both sides' knowledge of the online world, we're aiming to get families talking about the exciting possibilities of the internet, as well as the risks to be aware of.*

*You can play Parents vs Kids on any Amazon Echo device or by downloading the Amazon Alexa app on your phone. It's a fun way to find out who knows more about all things online, as well as learning more about helping your child to stay safe.*

For more info, please use this link: <https://www.o2.co.uk/help/nspcc/parents-vs-kids>

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**Sherwell Valley Primary School is committed to safeguarding children.**

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mr J Kingston

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Mrs D Gaywood, Mr M Briant and Mrs C Jones

Our Named Governor for Safeguarding: Andrew Martin